



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MANITOBA SNOWBOARD TEAM CREATING ON THE FLY FOR SNOWBOARD COMPETITION AT THE FORKS THIS SATURDAY

The Forks, Winnipeg – Members of the Manitoba Snowboard team are about to start building a course, without knowing what the end result will be or look like, for the "Beat the Heat" Snowboard competition taking place in the Snowboard Park at The Forks this Saturday.

"We don't really know what the course will look like until we all get out there on Friday with our shovels," says event organizer and owner of 204 Skate Shop Chris Mellen. "We do know we'll be leaving behind a super cool place for everyone to ride once the competition is over."

"Beat the Heat" happens this Saturday from 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

The competition, being put on by 204 Skate Shop with support from The Forks, is the first ever urban snowboard competition. It is expected to attract riders from as far away as Whistler who will make the trip in order to compete for a share of the \$1,000 in prize money being offered.

"This year's snowboard park in Arctic Glacier Winter Park was our biggest yet, with the whole area in front of Scotiabank Stage designed to be one big snowboard heaven," says Paul Jordan, Chief Operating Officer for The Forks. "This competition is a really fantastic way to cap off the year and finish off winter programming with a bang."

The park already has a 30ft rail, the second longest in the province, and a large c-box that has been used throughout the winter. The Manitoba snowboard team plans to build on the existing structures and add a few extra features allowing competitors to really showcase their talents.

The competition is divided into three categories: 14 and under, women's and 15 and older. Each category of riders will take turns alternating on the different boxes and rails with the older more experienced competitors participating in a best trick contest. The competition will end with a "5 minute throw-down" and the winners in each category will be decided based on a riders poll, with final say coming from the judges.

While the Snowboard Park will be closed to outside boarders during the competition the specially designed course will be open to the public following the competition for as long as weather permits.

Those interested in competing can register by calling 785-9173 or sign up at the hill at 11:30am on Saturday. The entry fee is \$10.

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For more information contact:

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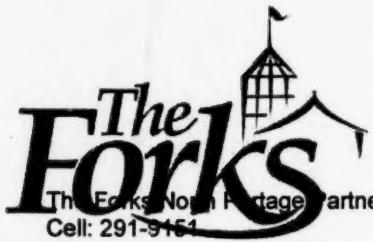
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